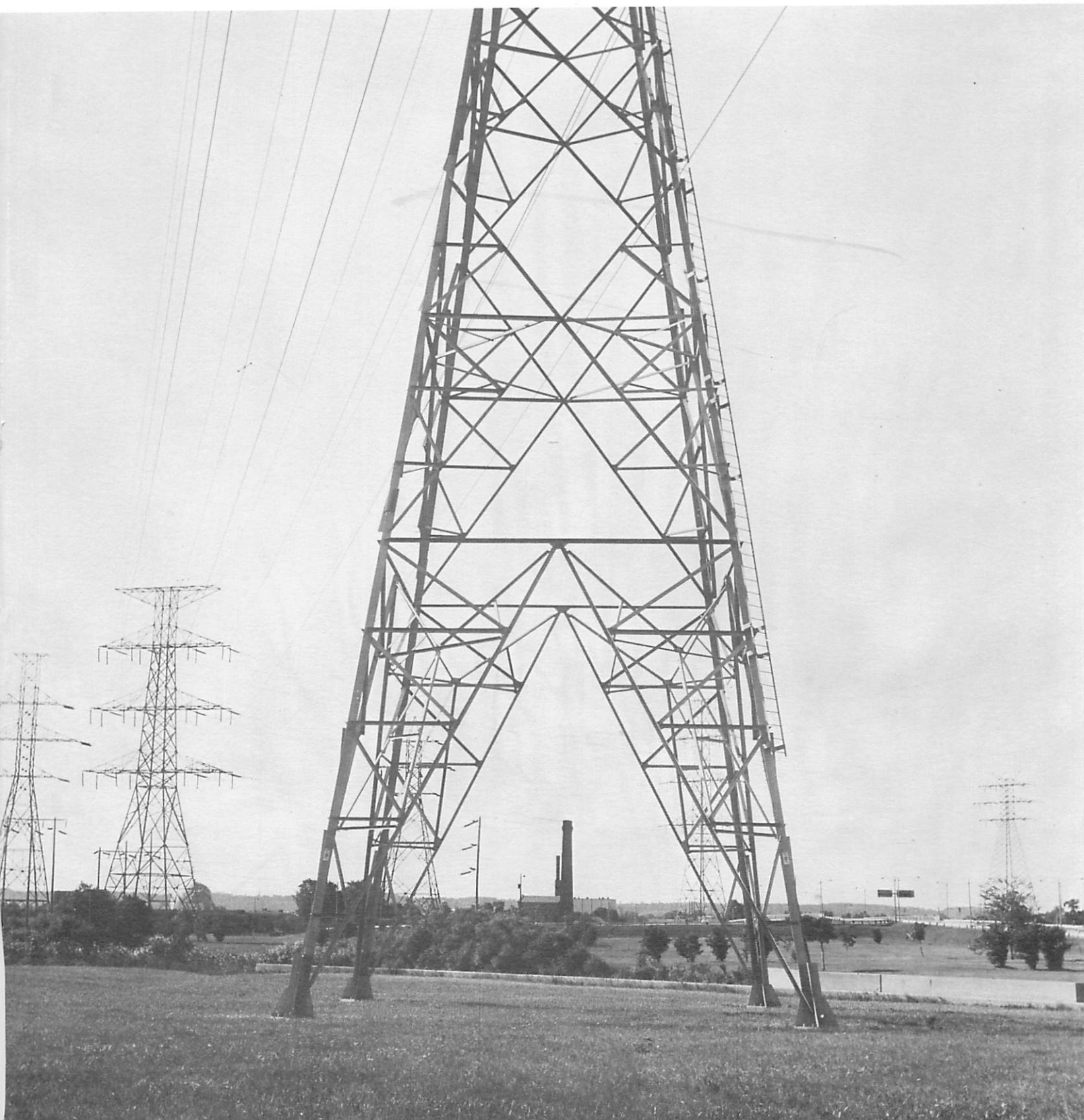


ACORN



The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario

A society incorporated in 1933 for the preservation of the best examples of the architecture of the province, and for the protection of its places of natural beauty.

President:	W. Moffet
Immediate Past President:	Peter John Stokes
Senior Vice-President.	A. K. Sculthorpe
2nd Vice-President:	H. Walker
3rd Vice-President:	P. Rosebrugh
Treasurer:	J. Reckitt
Secretary:	W. McCoy

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WINTER 1979

The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario R Newsletter

EDITORIAL STAFF

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Contributing Editor:	Peter John Stokes

The Cover

Preservation as seen in the perspective of progress — perhaps the popular perspective of conservation, Ontario style.

Ontario, a place for pylons to stand, the statuesque monsters carrying prosperity if not peace across the countryside and cityscape.

Here cradled within the cautionary triangle of a transmission tower's well-braced bosom — Hamilton's Pumphouse. Cabin'd, cribb'd, confin'd? Well-laced, but not yet in a strait jacket — Lest it be so, long live private enterprise and the Architectural Conservancy of Onario.

P.J.S.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

We were most interested to meet, this summer, Mr. Michael D. Blacklock, deputy director of the National Trust for Scotland. The word 'National' in its title has the connotation of a publicly owned organization. This is not true. It is better explained in the words of William Packer of the Financial Times. Would that we could have someone to write about the Architectural Conservancy as brilliantly as he.

"The National Trust for Scotland, like its English counterpart, is all too easily taken for granted. The responsibilities it takes upon itself are enormous, and its very success a kind of general rebuke that its intervention should ever be necessary. The thought of what this kingdom would be like now had the two trusts never been is just too hard to bear, for human nature seems not to change, and official indifference to history and beauty in the face of the lucrative, short-term investment, the myth of progress, and private rapacity remain powerful enemies still. And yet the very title, National Trust, has an imposingly official ring to it, so much so that it too must work somewhat against it, suggesting to the thoughtless, and the careless that central authority indeed is active, the cost already met from central funds. We need constantly to remind ourselves of the great work of conservation done on our behalf by this private initiative, and to support every effort to raise funds".

The National Trust is the third largest landowner in Scotland. The Duke of Buccleugh is the second, and the Parks Board is the first. They own fifteen castles, fifteen gardens, twenty-two smaller properties, seven properties in mountainous country, four historic sites, five islands, three waterfalls, ten view points and small areas, six 'Famous Scots', two Doocots, (dovecots), and seven other properties. A brief rundown of the financing is enlightening.

1978		
Subscriptions	£ 314,130	10%
Donations	859,156	28%
Investment Income	390,758	13%
Legacies	278,528	9%
Grants	126,599	4%
Rents, few duties, etc.	75,122	2%
Admission charges to Properties	301,540	10%
Other receipts including sales at Trust shops, sales of little houses, and takings from various services to visitors, food, petrol, caravan sites, receipts from life members etc.	753,329	24%
	£3,099,162	100%

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1 November, 1979

As the third year of my term as President closes I look back and realize clearly that the Conservancy's affairs rely so much upon the efforts of its officers, organizers and hard workers who carry out its various programs and activities. Therefore I wish to thank all those who have participated to make this private organization a success in the past year and particularly the Executive and Members of Council who have given continuous support and have enabled this President to carry on.

For special recognition I would like to mention our Treasurer, Mr. Wentworth Walker, who has undertaken on many an occasion to assist your president in organization and correspondence, not to mention his most important position as "Mr. Money Bags", and his smooth transition to yet another stage of self-sufficiency under the capable direction of Mrs. Margaret Wulff who now has charge of our new office at 191 College Street in Toronto. Our senior vice-President, Mr. William Moffet, has been a great help particularly in his part in the Advisory Board and executive affairs of the past year.

The Council in the past year has been extremely fortunate in having the good offices of an excellent campaign manager, Mr. Norman Sheppard, whose organization and approaches to various corporations, businesses and individuals have produced an unexpected response, although he himself is very modest about the results. You have heard some of the details from Mr. Wentworth Walker, but suffice it to say that we now have enough to start our first architectural monograph on a smaller Ontario community, a project to proceed when student help again becomes more readily available. The success of this campaign follows Mr. Kenneth Clarke's organized earlier fund-raising which brought the ACO from the brink of financial disaster back into the black. We are indeed grateful for Mr. Clarke's hard work in that regard and his knowledge of/and connections with the business community. We realize too how difficult it would be to resist the gentle chuckle and friendly arm twist of our gallant Midas.

In reviewing the three years I realize how important the recording of our Council minutes is, and Mr. William McCoy has followed a rather hard task master, our old friend Duncan Lee, yet has settled in well. But behind every President is a Past President and Mr. John McFarland has always been a great support whenever he has

been able to attend meetings of Council. He has had the necessary sense of perspective, the detachment to be non-political, almost, but not quite the gall to be controversial: this is a healthy and stimulating relationship. So I too look forward to taking over his position as I thank him for his past help.

I would like to thank Mrs. A. K. Sculthorpe and her Committee for arranging this annual general meeting which combines a tour through our oldest surviving legislative building. It seems a very suitable venue for such an event.

Before closing I should mention some significant events which have occurred in connection with the affairs of the ACO over the past year. The Brant County Branch invited the September Council meeting to take place in Brantford in Glenhyrst. This was a particularly enjoyable Saturday with a tour of an historic residential neighbourhood of the city, an area rich in mid and late Victorian architectural examples and worthy of consideration as an Historic Conservation District.

Our monograph funds are at present in trust and the money donated for this purpose by the Bronfman Foundation has been almost matched by the Ministry of Culture and Recreation: work on the subject will proceed in 1980. The Council on behalf of the ACO and its Port Hope Branch has signed a ten year lease at \$1.00 per year with the Town of Port Hope on the Old Fire Hall of 1871 on Walton Street, Port Hope to save that building, an essential part of the Walton streetscape, from demolition. The Port Hope Branch is now free to manage the project, rehabilitate the structure and secure suitable tenants. The Chamber of Commerce is already committed.

The Advisory Board has continued to function, still in a rather informal way, with members co-operating when available. In the past year responses have been made to enquiries about provincial highway improvements on several occasions although some are still to be completed. A call to provide support for alternative development to avoid demolishing two older Dundas houses was also answered and an outline of possible schemes indicated. Another call, again regarding a bank proposal, emanated from Stratford and is currently under consideration. The Board also saved a landmark, the steeple on the Ameliasburg Museum, the former Methodist Church of 1868 in that community, and work on its preservation is now about to start. Orangeville LACAC also requested the help of the Advisory Board in their selection of buildings for designation; the saving of a corner with an older bank

building retained is a signal success there, and the replacement building nearby is better than first designed.

The ACO is looking for someone to succeed Mr. Guy Saunders, who for many years has been the Conservancy's official Archivist. We take this opportunity to thank Mr. Saunders who has expressed a wish to retire, and hope that he will be able to assist in the selection of his successor who may be assisting the writing of a history of the ACO's first fifty years in 1983.

Interest in the ACO and its activities continues to grow and it is apparent that many more centres could be encouraged to join the outer web of the organization. Whereas most of the Branches so far set up have strong local affiliation, one in particular, Huron County Branch, which is far more widespread, suggests that another order is possible where membership and participation in ACO affairs could be stimulated. Some ACO Branches have spawned more specific local heritage groups such as Heritage Ottawa from the old Ottawa Branch which now lies dormant. However the whole of Eastern Ontario with communities like Perth, Carleton Place, Merrickville, Maitland, Brockville, Prescott, counties like Glengarry, Stormont and Dundas and other outlying settlements are not represented. Likewise Picton and Prince Edward County, Belleville, Trenton and even further west would form another group. The Georgian Bay towns suggest yet another. The Niagara Peninsula is still unorganized, even through the Hamilton-Niagara Branch is supposed to cover this, and Hamilton related to Halton seems a closer association. This scheme, of a galaxy of community stars all interrelated, where meetings could be held in different places in turn, might provide another dimension to be explored possibly by retiring Council members and dedicated workers. Interest has already been expressed in the Ottawa area — perhaps the new branch should be known as the Ottawa-St. Lawrence Branch.

The most important continuing success of the ACO is Acorn — thanks to our very capable and very hardworking editor Mrs. Marion Garland, who will be speaking to you shortly. That thrice yearly publication, printed at a remarkably low cost for the quality of its production, relies upon every contributor,, but the final copy has to be put together by Mrs. Garland; this is a time-consuming task that deserves our appreciation.

As an encouraging note it might be interesting to record that your outgoing President has some eighty students in a class at the University of Waterloo, all but two in the School of Architecture, who are participating in an introductory course on Preservation Practice dealing with the background of design. Concern for preservation is growing, particularly among the younger generation.

As I retire to the back bench, still able to listen in on the affairs of Council during the term of my successor, I thank again the members of the Executive and Council and those who have made my term as President of the ACO a very enjoyable three years.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting of the ACO on November 1st, started most enjoyably with a reception in the Lieutenant-Governor's suite at Queen's Park. The Honourable Pauline M. McGibbon received the guests with Peter John Stokes, the retiring President, and William Moffet, the new President.

The new slate of officers is as follows: President, W. Moffet; Senior Vice-President, A. K. Sculthorpe; 2nd Vice-President, H. Walker; 3rd Vice-President, P. Rosebrugh; Treasurer, J. Reckitt; Secretary, W. McCoy.

After the meeting, members were given a tour of the Parliament Buildings.

NEWS FROM EAST TO WEST

from the Branches

PORT HOPE

In her president's report at the annual general meeting, Mrs. A. K. Sculthorpe mentioned the feasibility study which the branch commissioned in cooperation with the East Durham Historical Society through the Adhoc Firehall Committee.

This study was completed in January and there followed more discussions with council. These continued for many months. Council would only consider such a study if they had no financial responsibility. The Branch requested that the corporation apply to Wintario for a grant. The application was filled in, but council insisted that

it go to the town engineers for comment. From the latter, a scathing report was sent back to council. There he matter hung until the building inspector, becoming alarmed at the thought of approaching winter, condemned the building. Fortunately Mr. Stokes went over the building and found it was not much worse than it had been earlier and could be made safe for ten thousand dollars. Again this was taken to council and their general feeling was that it would be better to demolish the firehall. The Branch promised to undertake repairs immediately if they were given permission on the condition that if the building was subsequently demolished, the money the Conservancy had spent would be refunded to them. The resolution allowing the Branch to proceed was passed by council, and the firehall is now in the process of being stabilized and repaired.

The executive for 1979-80 as proposed by the nominating committee was accepted by the members — President: A. K. Sculthorpe, Vice-President: Anita Blackwood, Recording Secretary: Linda Leighton, Corresponding Secretary: Helen Bogay, Treasurer: Clare Kappler, Program Director: Pierre St. Laurent, Membership: Mel Chapple, Past President: Susan Thomas, Directors: Wilfred Day, Marion Garland, Roger Kirkpatrick, Marnie de Kerckhove Varent.

The Little Station

The little station has been put in good repair. At the moment, three primer coats of paint have been applied, and the membership is being asked for volunteers to finish the final painting.

Bus Tours

The Branch have added to their treasury by bus tours. The latest, given to visiting Legionnaires' wives, were directed by Mrs. A. K. Sculthorpe and Mrs. S. Strathy.

The Beef Draw

Another means of making money was the beef draw organized by Linda Leighton. Half the beef was donated by Robert Sculthorpe.

The House Tour

The house tour was held on Saturday, September 29. Twelve houses were open to the public, as well as several churches, among which was the oldest continuing church in the diocese, St.

Mark's. This latter was especially interesting as it is where Her Majesty the Queen and Prince Philip worshipped when they were visiting at Batterwood. Prince Philip also read the lesson at that time. Mr. and Mrs. Massey are buried in the churchyard as well as their son, Lionel. The cassocks of the choir are in the royal crimson, permission having been given by the Queen.

The twelve houses ranged in style from a clapboard saltbox type of farmhouse built in 1838, an early Georgian hipped-roofed mill house built in 1847, a mid-1860 brick farm house, with a dining room having an elliptical arched recess with pilasters and keystone, flanked by square-headed cupboards, Penryn Homestead built about 1829 by Commander John Tucker Williams, The Cone, an excellent example of the picturesque Gothic vernacular cottage built about 1847, The Bluestone, an example of the Greek Revival style, built in 1834 by John David Smith, two handsome semi-detached houses in the high Victorian style of the Second Empire, constructed around 1875, The Macfarlane House with a low pitch hip roof, built during the latter half of the 19th century, and 8 King Street, a one and a half storey brick house built around 1850, an example of a regency Gothic cottage.

TORONTO REGION

Frederick Law Olmstead

Preparations for the Toronto Branch's tour of Buffalo, New York in late September included a lecture by Professor William Rock, Jr., Chairman of the University of Toronto's Department of Landscape Architecture, on the life and work of Frederick Law Olmstead. Olmstead's plan for the Buffalo parks system, begun over a hundred years ago, is representative of his many outstanding landscape projects, which included Central Park in New York City, Mount Royal Park in Montreal, the Boston parks system, and the Chicago World's Fair.

Born in Hartford, Connecticut in 1821, Olmstead was at various times in his 81-year life a seaman, journalist, social philosopher, government official, landscape architect, and unsung theoretician of the national parks movement. His diverse activities were inspired by the devoutly-held belief that the condition of the masses, rather than that of the cultivated class to which he himself belonged, would determine the moral tone, the political health, and the ultimate fate of the United States.

Central to his philosophy was his concern for the growth of nineteenth-century North American cities, which too often resulted in the eclipse of natural landscape by the unnaturalness of the urban grid. For Olmstead, public parks were necessary to meet not only social requirements but also more abstract spiritual needs. The balance between urban and natural environments could determine the health of a nation.

Olmstead clearly foresaw the urgency of adapting land for the recreational and contemplative needs of city dwellers before the last remnants of natural terrain were engulfed by "monotonous, straight streets and piles of erect angular buildings". In the course of his prolific career, he designed thirty-seven urban parks, sixteen suburban plans, fourteen campuses, three conservation areas, and one regional parks system. His artistic, intellectual, and deeply humanistic sensibilities have left a great legacy. Buffalo is only one of many cities where his plans, made a century ago, provide a greater balance between nature and urban life.

Buffalo Tour

Toronto ACO members who had asked "why Buffalo?" when that city was announced as the site of the branch's annual Fall Tour discovered the answer on September 29th. "Buffalo Day", as it was dubbed by tour organizers, began at 8:00 that morning, when 94 branch members and guests boarded two chartered buses and headed south. Their designation, although often maligned nowadays, was one of America's fastest-growing and most-"livable" cities from the late 1800's until well into this century.

Highlights of the combined bus and walking tour included such 19th century architectural masterpieces as St. Paul's Episcopal Church (Upjohn, 1849-51), the Buffalo State Hospital Complex (Richardson, 1870-2), the Elicott Square Building (Burnham, 1895), the Prudential Building (Sullivan, 1895-6), and the First Presbyterian Church (Green & Wicks, 1889).

Escorted on the tour by members of two Buffalo-area preservation groups (the Western New York Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians and the Landmark Society of the Niagara Frontier), the Torontonians also saw elements of Frederick Law Olmstead's parks system, laid out in the 1860's and remarkably well-preserved. Various major cultural attractions were also on the tour, including Kleinhan's Music Hall, the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, and Shea's

Theatre. Lunch was served at Shea's by members of the theatre's "Spotlight Committee".

Buffalo's role as "cradle" of modern architecture was also explored through visits to Frank Lloyd Wright's D. D. Martin House Complex (1904-06) and Albert Kahn's Pierce Arrow Manufacturing Plant (1906). Even such contemporary landmarks as Yamasaki's Manufacturers' and Traders' Trust Company Building (1964-7) and Rudolph's Shoreline Apartments Complex (1970-7) were included on the tour to demonstrate the city's continuing role in the evolution of modern architectural thought and practice.

The tour's final stop was Trinity Episcopal Church, where members were treated first to views of the outstanding leaded glasswork of Louis Tiffany and John LaFarge and then to an excellent (most agreed "gourmet") dinner. Following dinner, half of the weary-but-enlightened contingent returned to Toronto, and those who remained enjoyed an evening at the theatre, compliments of Mr. Jason Aronoff of the Landmark Society.

Why not Buffalo?

On Reading in the ACORN of Eric Arthur's Tea

"Kudos are in order"
Hear Toronto's cry!
Singular and plural
Plaudits reach the sky.
Grierson and Baker
Eric's tea poured out—
Splendid though their feat their
case is/are in doubt.

Yr. faithful Hamilton corresp.t., G.S.

(Is the Toronto editor's use of Greek words slipping? Is ACORN's editor becoming sloppy? (Kudos is only used in singular.) Or is our faithful correspondent being a little pedantic? Anyway, shouldn't it be **number** instead of **case**? Ed.)

HAMILTON-NIAGARA

Red Hill Creek Expressway

Hamilton City Council voted 9:8 to support the valley route at regional council. This route will destroy Hamilton's only wilderness valley. The last one was eaten up by the 403 highway. Our branch presented a brief both written and oral.

Central Public School

The proposed renovations to this 1853 school

house were to have been well under way by now but red tape has bogged down the project at Queen's Park.

The basic plan was to renovate the entire building using the first floor for school purposes and to lease the second floor as prime office space.

The declining enrolment picture in the city core neighbourhoods is changing due to the presence of the boat people.

Publications

We have established a Research and Publications Committee which is defining its role and market needs. We hope soon to meet with other heritage groups to see what they may be planning in the way of publications. Consideration is being given to a second printing of the very successful "Victorian Architecture in Hamilton" or possibly a new companion volume.

It has been suggested that all branches supply head office with a copy of all branch publications together with ordering information where applicable. Head Office would then prepare a master list to be forwarded to each branch. We support the idea and will forward all our publication samples past and future.

Customs House

This pre-confederation building sited by the railway yard is considered the finest building in Hamilton of its type. It has been lately the home of a noodle factory and we understand that it will soon be offered for sale. One idea has been to restore the exterior and transform it for use as a theatre-auditorium. See page 16 of "Victorian Architecture" for a photograph of the building.

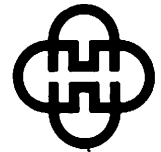
Hamilton's Jacobean Castle

Raistrick's Jacobean masterpiece called Amisfield was butchered in about 1950 by surrounding commercial development which stripped the castle of its palatial grounds and entrance.

There may now be an unique opportunity to return it to its former elegance thanks to self-serve gasoline. The offending service station is now boarded up and we are exploring the conversion of this site back to parkland. The owner of the Castle building may also be interested in carrying out some sympathetic restoration. See page 17 of "Victorian Architecture" for photographs.

HERITAGE CAMBRIDGE

House Tour



The houses featured on the Heritage Cambridge house tour of October 13th are an outstanding lot. Together they reflect the Conservancy's interest in local history, good early buildings, both large and small, and excellent modern architecture. One of the houses, "Kirkmichael", was the home of William Dickson, Jr., son of the founder of Galt. It is a charming Regency style stone cottage — larger than the ordinary run of cottages, and showing evidence in its detailing of being the home of a person of prominence. Built in 1832, it is perhaps the oldest on the list, though "Deer Run" was built in the mid-1880s as a farmhouse. "Deer Run" is interesting as an old stone house built in the solid early style, and also for the careful, well-planned way that the present owners have enlarged it. The new wing fits in beautifully, with the same aura of strength and dignity. The house is still a country retreat, with lovely views along the Grand River. "Cruikston Park" was built in 1857, but extensively altered and enlarged in the 1870s. It is a splendid example of the English country estate brought to Canada, and is still surrounded by its park, farms and cottages. Another 1870s house is "Lanark Cottage" — quite a contrast in size and demesne, but a fine sample of the strong, well-proportioned stone cottages built by the Scottish stone-masons of the area. The fifth house on the tour, built 100 years later, shows what good modern architecture can do. It was designed by Arthur Erickson, and fits its site so well that it seems almost a part of the river escarpment on which it stands. This splendid structure of brick, wood and glass reflects its owners' interest in nature, and provides a peaceful oasis in the heart of the city. All the homes are lovingly cared for, and full of fascinating things to add to the architectural interest.

Annual Meeting

Heritage Cambridge held its annual meeting on Thursday, October 25th, at the Cambridge Central Library. The meeting opened with a welcome from the President, Bill Barlow, followed by his President's report. Dave Ross gave the Treasurer's report, and Jean Fayle reported on the progress of plans for our bus tour to New Orleans in the spring. Lynda Schneider announced that the House Tour had been a great success, with about 900 tickets sold. Bill Barlow then presented Lynda with a Heritage Cambridge print for all her work in connection with the house tour. Joanne Smart presented the report of the Nomi-

nating Committee. After asking for nominations from the floor, the president declared the report accepted by acclamation. The Board of Directors for 1979-80 is as follows:

President: Bill Barlow, Vice President: Don McKay, Secretary: Lucille Douglas, Treasurer: Dave Ross, Directors: John Bell, Kay Caldwell, Cynthia Dobbie, Kathleen Elliott, Jean Fayle, Edie Halpenny, Katharine Hebblethwaite, Dave Hysinger, Mark Parrott, Pat Roseburgh, Joanne Smart, Andrew Taylor.

A very interesting program was then presented by Professor George P. Baird, M.R.A.I.C., of the Department of Architecture, University of Toronto. Professor Baird's talk was on "The Evolution of Main Streets in Three Ontario Communities — Brantford, Brockville and Napanee", and it was illustrated with numerous slides.

After the meeting refreshments were provided by a committee headed by Kay Caldwell. It was felt that this evening made a vigorous beginning for the new year of activities.

New Orleans — Natchez Tour

Heritage Cambridge is planning a bus tour to view areas of architectural and historical interest in the southern States in April, 1980. The tour to Savannah over a year ago was such a success that it was felt another, to other places, should be arranged. The tour will take 13 days. It will begin with a visit to the Westgate Dinner Theatre in Toledo on the first night away, proceed to Nashville to attend the "Grand Ole Opry", and then view the beautiful Greek Revival architecture which caused Nashville to be known as the Athens of the South. The bus will go on to Natchez, for a special tour of that "Pilgrimage" area, a whole day and two nights being spent there. Three full days will be spent in New Orleans, with special tours, and a cruise on the Mississippi arranged. Bellingrath Gardens will also be visited. A night will be spent in Holly Springs, a very beautiful town, and a night in the restored part of Shaker-town in Kentucky. After visiting the "Kentucky Horse Park" the next stop will be in Cincinnati where we will visit the Taft Museum, and proceed back to Cambridge the following day. Arrangements are being made by Jean Fayle of Heritage Cambridge and All Star Tours. The price will be about \$499.

BRANT COUNTY

This branch has kept the mails busy with letters in regard to several situations in Brantford itself. This spring work began on widening

the sidewalks on Colborne Street. Colborne and Market Square had the only unspoiled street-scapes in the business section. But two buildings at the corner of Colborne and Market, both of them significant for a town the size of Brantford, were required for the downtown renewal scheme. One of the property owners, the Bank of Nova Scotia, purchased property across the street on the market square in order to rebuild. Demolition took place this August at the latter site, but the corner building was under a 5-year lease which could not be broken. The matter remains unsettled, with the Market Street streetscape spoiled, one attractive older structure gone, (Walter's Jewellers) and no assurance of a reasonable modern structure which would link up the remaining buildings. Nor is the renewal scheme itself assured as of this date.

Meanwhile, in order to divert traffic from the downtown, a ring road has been planned. (Many people feel the ring road would also divert commerce from the city core). Territory for the road requires demolition on Colborne, destroying the 19th century streetscape near the Lorne Bridge. The road is to circle Brantford, emerging on Colborne East. Two extremely significant houses were demolished this summer in order to provide clearance for this road, which is by no means an actuality.

Both these situations required letters to City Council and the Planning Board. The Conservancy also sent representatives to a public meeting and an expropriation hearing, as well as submitting a brief setting out reasons for retaining the remaining 19th century commercial streetscapes. In addition, the branch advocated preservation of a streetscape opposite a significant 19th century school slated for demolition. Both streetscape and school are to be replaced by a park, though the need for this park has not been clearly established. (The city failed to expropriate a suitable site for the park in the next block north, which was purchased for a commercial establishment.)

Another Brantford landmark, a mid-19th century "castle" named Wynarden, was designated by the city, then un-designated. Because of a lack of support by City Council, the local LACAC (called Brantford Heritage Committee), has formulated a policy of not recommending properties for designation if the owners object. Consequently the branch has an extended role, which it obviously has had difficulty in playing.

In spite of the branch's lack of "clout", the press releases and other publicity have made the work of the Conservancy known, and public edu-

cation is slowly taking place. Walking and Church tours have drawn reasonable crowds, while a small core group have been taking enthusiastic part in educational workshops on architecture.

Brant County was hard hit by the Tornado of August 7, with many heritage structures suffering damage or obliteration. Accurate reports on tornado damage are still not available.

The Good News

Thanks largely to our telephone committee, our programs have drawn reasonable numbers. Our March general meeting was our first to be held at Glenhyrst, where we are now members. This meeting, on "Old Railway Stations", for which members Gordon and Dougie Hault, Wendy Bethune and Bob Squires are to be thanked, was a success, as were our Canada Week Walking Tours hosted by Mike Keefe, Garry Burns, Margaret Chandler and Heritage House, Wendy Bethune and the Social Committee. Workshops on Style, Date, Restorations and Interiors were enthusiastically supported, thanks to the resource leadership of Violet Fair, Bill Robertson, Martha Malcolm, Virginia Harker and Audrey Scott. A Commercial Award was presented to the Iron Horse Steak House and our first Residential Award granted to Heritage House, W. Ross Macdonald School, and to 74 Dufferin Avenue, and 117 Dufferin Avenue. Our May money raising event was most successful, thanks to the garage sale at Wendy Bethune's convened by Don Musson with the help of Don Pettitt and Catherine Field.

The Bad News

Our Preserve Downtown Committee has failed to influence any of the "Powers That Be", despite further efforts. Both 697 and 698 Colborne E. (Mohawk Lodge) are under the wrecker's hammer, despite our intervention. The Brantford



Heritage Committee (B.H.C.) has been unable to influence City Council to designate any threatened structure. The Bexell Brewery was destroyed by

fire and demolished. Several country buildings have disappeared without murmur. Two Neighbourhood Improvement Area Groups (Brant Ave. and Central School) on whose behalf we approached the Planning Board appear to be losing older structures. Our building survey of the core area is still incomplete.

September 8 ACO Council Meeting

Branch members were hosts to the ACO Council meeting on September 8. We are awaiting the promised write-up of that very enjoyable day. Ed.

After the September meeting ACO Council members are seen enjoying their walking tour of an historic residential neighbourhood of Brantford, courtesy the Brant County Branch. Here they gaze with awe at an architect's work of the 1890s, indicative of the wealth of material in this location.



Photo by Peter John Stokes

Members of Council of the ACO enjoying their walking tour and examining a fire-damaged cottage now undergoing restoration in an historic neighbourhood of Brantford, courtesy of the Brant County Branch who were the hosts on the occasion of the September Council meeting.



Photo by Peter John Stokes

Important Resolution

Clause 19 of the Number Two Committee Report which was adopted by Council of the Corporation of the City of Brantford at its meeting held on August 7, 1979 is as follows: "Resolved that the Municipality of the Corporation of the City of Brantford is concerned that the strict application of the Ontario Building Code to heritage buildings might seriously affect their appearance and even their existence and that this Council supports the recommendations of the Canadian Building Officials Association and the Ontario Building Officials Association with respect to heritage buildings and the changes which would be required in the Ontario Building Code to accommodate these and further that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations, the Ministry of Culture and Recreation and the Secretary of the Ontario Building Officials Association."

LONDON REGION



London Region 6th Annual Walking Tour

The London Region Branch's annual walking tour took place on the first Sunday in June as usual last year. Those who attended walked the "Piccadilly Circuit", London's attractive north-central residential district.

Booklets from this tour, and previous ones, including descriptions of the areas and architecture are available from the London Branch for \$1.00 each (plus postage). P.O. Box 22, Station B, London, Ontario N6A 4V3.

Matthews' Hall

A building of merit in the vicinity of last year's tour, familiar to London residents of today as Miss Matthew's School, has been demolished. Formerly known to Londoners as "Bishopstowe", it was the residence of three Bishops of the Huron Diocese.

The site at the corner of St. James and St. George Streets is to be occupied by yet another apartment building.

The Armouries, London, Ontario

Active local groups, including the London Region Branch of the A.C.O. are still concerned about the uncertain future of the city's Armouries. The Dundas Street Armoury, a 1905 public

building with fine exterior features was recently offered for sale a second time by the federal government. An earlier offer of \$650,000 was declined in expectation of a sum in the neighbourhood of \$4.5 million.

Although there has been a number of proposals for uses of the building; none of these have materialized. While the government remains committed to spending an inordinate amount to maintain the vacant building, they are only prepared to consider rental of space on a short term basis to cover their operating costs.

Glen Wood

Mr. Glen Wood, a London Ontario developer and London Region Branch member, was one of the recipients of the 1979 Heritage Canada Awards of Honour at a special ceremony held at Government House in Victoria, British Columbia on Thursday, October 18th. The Awards were announced by Foundation Chairman Pierre Berton and presented by the Honourable Henry P. Bell-Irving, Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia.

Mr. Wood was recognized by Heritage Canada for his rehabilitation of the Gordon Block in downtown Stratford as a shopping and office complex. The development, appropriately re-named Festival Square, made use of three existing buildings which had been the subject of controversy and public debate in the past. Vacant for several years, earlier development plans had failed and demolition seemed likely until Mr. Wood purchased the buildings and employed the Stratford architectural firm of Kyles, Kyles and Garratt to complete the renovations.

Heritage Canada commended the developer for the excellent re-use of the structures as well as for his contribution toward encouraging public interest and support of heritage conservation in the area.

Mr. Wood has also been responsible for core-area re-development in Cambridge, where the Cambridge Boardwalk has just been completed, and in London, where he had previously renovated the Talbot Inn and adjacent retail stores on Talbot Street.

He will address the spring general meeting of the London Region Branch and show slides of these re-cycling projects.

Bayfield

The feasibility study relating to the proposed designation of the Main Street of the village as a Heritage Conservation District has been undergoing revision under the guidance of the Ministry

of Culture and Recreation. This is now completed and is to be presented to Council at its next meeting.

Goderich

The by-law designating the former Polley's Livery Stable as an Historical Building has been passed by Council. A study of the feasibility of converting it into a centre for the performing and visual arts has just been completed by Bailey Consulting Associates. It confirmed the opinion of the members of the Goderich Performing Arts Foundation that there is the need in the community for such a facility and that the building can be successfully converted to the proposed use. The Foundation is now beginning its drive for the \$200,000 necessary to complete the purchase of the property and undertake the remodelling. Readers of the ACORN please note that all donations are tax deductible and will be most gratefully received at 58 Elgin Ave. E., Goderich.

An Auxiliary to the Foundation has been formed which is busily engaged in such fund-raising activities as the raffle of four works by Goderich artists, and lunches at the Livery Theatre.

A fund-raising project by the chairman, Dorothy Wallace, is attracting considerable local interest. When she protested the demolition of a 135 year old double brick house in her neighbourhood to provide parking for an apartment house for senior citizens she was offered the house if she would move it away. The only available lot in the older part of town was, by chance, for sale. A full basement whose front was faced with field stone was installed and the house moved onto it. It is now in the process of being refitted to modern standards and will, she hopes, be sold at some profit for the Foundation.

In Vol. II. 1 of ACORN it was reported that a feasibility study had been completed on the Huron Historical Gaol with a view to discovering ways in which that building could play a part in the life of the community. Although the study recommended that a theatre be constructed in the largest yard, the Board, after lengthy debate, rejected the suggestion as impractical and detrimental to the preservation of the historic site as an example of penal institutions of an earlier era. The Board concluded that the primary function of the building must remain that of a museum.

With the assistance of a museum grant, Young Canada Works programs and a small grant from the Town of Goderich the Gaol remains self supporting. It attracts 15,000 visitors during its May 24 to Thanksgiving season each year. Sunday

flea markets on the lawn have proven an attraction and provide some extra income.

Intensive research by one of the summer students, Robert Cornish, in 1978 into the early Huron County Council papers at Western University revealed the many changes which had occurred during the 140 years since the land donated by the Canada Company for a gaol and courthouse had been cleared. The most startling discovery was that the present octagonal wall which surrounds the exercise yards and central block is not the original wall. That had stood 40' closer to the central block. The present wall which is 18' high and extends 5' into the ground was erected 20 years later to provide more exercise space. Its interior corners were mortared smooth and it was capped with 3' of loose stone to discourage escape.

The 1979 summer students have prepared a booklet outlining the history of the Gaol. Called **Imprisoned in Stone, Huron Historical Gaol, 1839-1972**, it will be on sale to visitors next season.

Seaforth

The Seaforth LACAC engaged a student this summer to research the history and architectural merits of the Main Street in preparation for designation. They presented their findings and recommendations to Council recently and were well received. Much painting and sprucing up of the store fronts has, indeed, been done already. A walking tour of the streets was enjoyed by about 75 people one Sunday afternoon in August.

The VanEgmond Foundation held its annual Cider Festival on September 30. The day was beautiful, the vendors many, the display of crafting fascinating, the home-made sausage-in-a-bun tasty and the cider plentiful. A very profitable venture in every way.

Exeter

Except for a few items the Exeter Town Hall restoration is now completed. The debt of \$165,000, underwritten by 19 citizens three years ago, has been reduced to about \$2,000. Rents from two offices in the building and from events held in the former council chamber on the second floor carry the expenses of the building. In its restored state the pretty Town Hall is a source of pride to the whole town and most particularly to the few who had the vision and the dedication to restore it.

Clinton

The Clinton LACAC engaged the services of Robert Cornish this summer. As a result the inventory of historic buildings there is almost completed. He collaborated with Heather Hunter LACAC chairman in providing histories of several of them to the News Record. The stories were well received by its readers and will be continued throughout the winter.

The board and batten house in the centre of town which was reported earlier to be threatened with demolition has been purchased and will soon house a gift shop.

NEWS FROM OTHER ASSOCIATIONS

HERITAGE OTTAWA

Notes from LACAC

At their meeting August 21st, LACAC discussed a resolution regarding tax treatment of heritage properties. If approved by the Executive Committee and City Council the resolution will do much towards encouraging restoration rather than demolition.

Present tax laws are such that owners of heritage-value properties make more money through demolition than preservation. For example, restoration means improvement of a property, which in turn means higher taxes.

The resolution proposes that the city of Ottawa request the federal government to take the necessary steps to amend the existing provisions of the Income Tax Act to:

- eliminate existing incentives of exemption in the case of disposal of property by demolition
- provide tax incentives in the form of advantageous depreciation to encourage investment in heritage properties
- provide tax incentives to encourage restoration and preservation of multiple unit heritage buildings
- provide incentives in the form of owners' personal deductions for the cost of renovation and/or restoration of heritage properties
- establish a joint Federal-Provincial-Municipal committee to work towards the formulation of a cost-sharing program which would encourage restoration, preservation and conservation by individual heritage property owners, through favourable property tax treatment.

This amendment is long overdue. Many valuable properties might have been saved had it been considered earlier.

MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND RECREATION

Heritage Administration Branch

The Ministry of Culture and Recreation is doing an excellent job of circulating literature pertaining to the restoration of older buildings. A series of four preservation briefs has been sent to Chairmen of LACACs. These include *The Cleaning and Waterproof Coating of Masonry Buildings*, *Repointing Mortar Joints in Historic Brick Buildings*, *Conserving Energy in Historic Buildings*, and *Roofing for Historic Buildings*. Another useful pamphlet is *Cemeteries as Cultural or Recreational Resources*. An interesting point in this latter is that Section 62 of the Cemeteries Act specifies that a municipality must assume the ownership and maintenance responsibilities of abandoned cemeteries. This rule has been ignored in many instances and has resulted in invasion by shrubs and trees, settling of ground over graves, and vandalism. Cemeteries can be designated under the Ontario Heritage Act, 1974.

WINGHAM AND DISTRICT HERITAGE AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

To Microfilm Newspaper

TORONTO — A grant of \$2,250 has been awarded to the Wingham and District Heritage and Historical Society from Wintario proceeds, culture and recreation minister, Reuben Baetz announced today.

The grant will be applied toward the cost of microfilming back issues of the Wingham Times.

The ministry of culture and recreation and the Ontario Weekly Newspaper Association will work with local historical societies, museums or libraries to microfilm the back issues. Under this program, newspapers eligible for microfilming will be those published prior to 1967. The newspaper and the local library will each receive a copy of microfilm and the master negative will be held by the Ontario Government Archives in Toronto.

Increasing demand by researchers, teachers, students and the general public for access to historical information contained in old newspapers has created the need for the permanent preservation of local weekly newspapers. This project will result in the development of one of the largest sources of local and regional historical information in the country.

AROUND AND ABOUT:

Happenings in Ontario

ACTON

A group fighting to save Acton's old town hall got a boost from Halton Hills general committee recently when it voted unanimously after more than an hour of heated debate to allocate \$49,000 to the restoration of the old hall. The grant is subject to the ability of the town hall restoration committee to raise the rest of the \$200,000 required to complete the restoration.

ANCASTER

We hear from Marilyn McKelvey of A. J. Diamond Planners Ltd., that a firm is busily engaged in a Heritage Conservation District Study and Secondary Plan for the old village core area of Ancaster. This comes after the loss of the Amber Glow Hotel on one of the principal corners and a strangely misconceived replacement that pays no respect to the existing older buildings, still a worthy and fascinating architectural collection. Stranger still that a remarkably complimentary addition to the old mill was recently opened as a particularly delightful restaurant overlooking the cascade and mill race. Here the food can be recommended as well as the architect.

P.J.S.

AVONBANK and AVONTON AREA

Some of the oldest links with the past in the Avonbank and Avonton area are the completely renovated log houses of Al and Bev. Wagner at Avonbank and the original log house now used as an implement shed owned by Wayne Pethick.

BEETON

Tecumseth Township Council passed a by-law at its June meeting to form a LACAC. The committee will have Reeve Roy Gardhouse and Councillor Gerald Wallace as members.

CAMBRIDGE

In May City Council decided to advertise its intention to designate the old granite and field-stone former school and library at the corner of Riverbank Drive and Regional Road 17 as historically valuable.

A home built by the family of the founder of Preston should be preserved for future generations, City Council's planning committee said, last July. The committee will ask city council to

obtain a heritage easement from owners of the Erb House at 127 Jacob Street. This easement which is registered on the title, will protect the exterior of the house against change or demolition more than an historical designation will, said David Emberly, Chairman of the LACAC.

A new medical centre opened in June in the former Preston Public Utilities building at 506 King Street. The building is designated as a Heritage Cambridge structure so that renovations have been somewhat restricted, but physicians Doctors David Renner, George Ford, Harold Miller and Paul Quinlan are happy with the new location. The building is 100 years old.

COBOURG

George Baird, professor at the School of Architecture, University of Toronto, spoke to the Women's Committee for Victoria Hall in May. As his topic he used his presentation 'Three Ontario Towns' a review of the evolution of the commercial cores of Brantford, Brockville, and Napanee.

DELHI

Built for his family in 1861 by poet-naturalist-carpenter Thomas Wright, the restoration of this 128 year-old octagon in Oxford County northwest of Delhi is due to the hard work and dedication of a group of history-conscious citizens. It is now known as the Woodlawn Adult Community Centre. Bill McMullen Sr. was instrumental in the restoration project. He was quick to offer his services when talk of restoration began to make the rounds in the village of Otterville. Mrs. Joyce Pettigrew was the moving spirit in pushing through the project.

ELORA

Just a few years ago the big old stone mill here was slowly giving way to the elements. Most of the roof was gone and a big chunk of one of the walls had collapsed. Now the old mill is an elegant hostelry with comfortable guest rooms, a beamed ceiling lounge rather like a rural English pub, and dining rooms where dishes such as trout grenoblaise or roast duck Grand Marnier are served. Manager Bobby Gadhook says weekend room bookings are heavy and the inn is a popular place for small seminars and business meetings. The thundering Grand River bounces off the walls of the restored mill and the gorge is flood-lighted at night and lulls overnight guests to sleep.

ETOBICOKE

One of the oldest buildings in Etobicoke will soon be torn down. The familiar old grey farm house located on a picturesque hill overlooking the west branch of the Humber River will be demolished unless a bid is made to remove the old building, built circa 1830. The house is located on Humber College of Applied Arts and Technology property. Gordon Wragg, president of the college says the house, which has been standing empty for several years, is deteriorating rapidly. Funds for repairs and renovations are nowhere to be found.

GANANOQUE

The McDonald House now stands as a proud achievement on King Street. Serving as a town hall, the newly-restored building was opened in May.

GODERICH

For a second time, Dorothy Wallace has come to the rescue of one of the town's oldest buildings and may have found a way to make a little profit for the proposed Goderich Performing Arts Centre. Mrs. Wallace, Chairman of the committee, has agreed to pay the cost of moving the red brick house at 88 Lighthouse Street to a new location on Bruce Street. The vacant house, believed to be about 135 years old, was to be demolished to make room for a senior citizens' development. The town agreed to give Mrs. Wallace the house on the condition she pay all costs of relocating it. Any profits from the sale of the house will be used to help pay the \$350,000 cost of transforming the old livery stable on South Street into a performing arts centre.

LINDSAY

Purdy's Mill, 1869

This historic structure, with a new use in the offing and its possible conversion to a fine restaur-



rant intended, apparently felt the squeeze of modern demands and intractable parking requirements seem to have been one obstacle. Shortly after changing hands the Mill was gutted and has remained open to the elements for several months.

MERRICKVILLE

Village council has decided to proceed with the heritage designation of eight buildings recommended by LACAC: Hutchins-Heroux commercial building, Donovan's commercial building, the John Burchill House, the Mills residence, Percival house, municipal library and offices, Derbyshire's store, and Patterson residence.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

Hugh Faulkner, former Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, announced that the Federal government would pay up to \$800,000 on the \$2.2 million financing the Middlesex County courthouse restoration project, matching the Provincial contribution. The county has committed \$600,000 to the project also. The project will restore the historic courthouse located at the forks of the Thames River.

MILTON

Milton Council has decided to buy the old court house and jail for \$1.00. Financial implications of the purchase were paramount in the minds of the councillors throughout the discussion. Fears were expressed that the Milton Historical Society might not be able to fulfill a promise to try to find uses and tenants for the building within a year's time. The town has agreed to spend \$11,045 to keep the building in a state where it won't deteriorate over a one year period.

NAPANEE

Restoration of the Allan MacPherson House is now under way and will continue until September. Total cost of restoring the historic site has been estimated at \$44,000. The Friends of the Laird have raised \$12,500. The balance will be borne by Wintario and the Ontario Heritage Foundation.

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

The Brown--Tregunno house on the Niagara River Parkway and the Lockhart-Moogk house at 289 Simcoe Street have been added to the LACAC list of individual homes which should be designated historically and architecturally signifi-

cant under the Ontario Heritage Act. The committee is also recommending the following four homes be designated: the Varey-Hendrey House at 105 Johnson Street, the Moore-Bishop-Stokes House at 244 King Street, the Breakenridge-Hawley House at 392 Mississauga Street, and the Brown House at 173 Queen Street, in Queenston.

OTTAWA

The Cattle Castle at Lansdowne Park may have won a temporary reprieve from the wrecking ball until the city can decide whether the building is worth saving. Ottawa planning board approved a recommendation to declare the city's intention to designate the building 'heritage' under the provisions of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Ottawa's next heritage property may well be the Zeller's store on Sparks Street and O'Connor. The city announced its intention to designate the building almost two years ago, but the hearing under the Ontario Heritage Act was held in May. Heritage planner Clifford Ham said it was selected as one of about ten Italianate Victorian buildings in the city as an excellent example of Commercial architecture in the Confederation period with its repetitive narrow windows, rounded arches and carved stonework. It was built in 1871-1872.

RICHARD'S LANDING

A review of progress made on the restoration of the Church of Mary, Sailor's Encampment, and plans for the immediate future were discussed at a meeting of the committee held in June. The church is the oldest on St. Joseph Island, built in the 1870s. An 1864 bible has been uncovered during the renovation process. The committee, working on its own, with no government support, has raised well over \$3,000.

SAULT STE. MARIE

A Victoria Day garden party in May, to increase the endowment fund for refurnishing the summer kitchen of the Old Stone House was most successful. The house, located at 831 Queen Street East, is an historical landmark in Sault St. Marie.

ST. MARY'S

The stone walls of the mill race here, which date to 1865, are collapsing and when they go they will take part of the town's "roots" with them, a delegation from the LACAC told St. Mary's council Tuesday night. Bruce Graham

said, after the meeting with council, the town has only one option — restoration. "It has to be repaired. It dates back to the origins of the town and we just can't fill it in." Cost of planned restoration to the east wall has been estimated at \$15,000 and with two walls involved the price may simply be doubled, Councillor MacPherson said. The town took preliminary steps to restoring the east wall last year when a work crew cleaned out debris in the mill race channel lowering it by about four feet. Flood waters rushing through the mill race last spring have undermined the west wall which has been collapsing for the past two weeks, said LACAC chairman John Sheeler.

ST. CATHARINES

In May the general committee supported a resolution from the Ontario Building Officials' Association to request an easing of building code requirements on historic buildings that are undergoing renovations. The resolution pointed out some building code requirements might seriously affect the appearances of the buildings or, at worst, cause them to be torn down. Before passing the resolution, aldermen were told it had already gained the support of the city's fire and engineering departments.

STRATFORD

Reuben Baetz has announced that the Ontario government will contribute \$267,700 toward the restoration of the historical Fryfogel Inn near Stratford. The Inn, built in 1844 by Sebastian Fryfogel, was one of a number of hotels on the Huron Tract that stretched from Guelph to Goderich.

TAVISTOCK

A building having the characteristics of a museum, but which has never been designated as one, may soon be demolished here. The 120 year old Wettlaufer cider mill may be the only frame structure in this part of Ontario to have survived so long unscathed. Although in need of new siding, the three-storey mill still stands straight and rigid, attesting to the strength of its solid frame. A glance inside the building reveals a cider press weighing at least a ton still firmly in place on the second floor — along with many of the drive shafts and pulleys needed to run it. The present owner, 80 year old Oscar Wettlaufer, stopped operating the mill about 1944 when milk production on his nearby dairy farm became more

profitable than pressing farmers' apples into cider for four cents a gallon. The owner has decided he wants the old landmark demolished because of the threat presented to his adjoining residence by a possible fire.

TORONTO

Simpsons celebrated the designation of its downtown store as an historic building under the Ontario Heritage Act. Festivities included fifes and drums, a speech, the unveiling of three plaques and a grand march.

UNIONVILLE

Other news of preservation, after a long, hard and persevering fight, comes from this old village in the new Town of Markham (formerly the township area). A. J. Diamond Planners Ltd. are consultants for the core area, producing the background study for a Heritage Conservation District and preparing a street improvement plan alongside the Unionville Conservation and Development Society which, among other positive progress, prevented the widening of Kennedy Road through the village to result in a proposed by-pass around the older area. One illustration shows the remarkable return of dignity to an c. 1870 hotel (now serving partly as a drugstore and an office or agency), after its previous insensitive modernization. But alongside is an equally curious metamorphosis of a functional 20th century firehall block — the usual double garage, flat roofed form, masquerading behind a free-standing false-front à la carriage-house. We wonder if this is going just a bit too far — like one step forward and two steps back.

P.J.S.

VICTORIA HARBOUR

Following the initiative of Penetanguishene, the village council passed a by-law in June creating a LACAC. Named to the committee for two-year terms are Catharine MacKenzie and Raymond Des Chenes, Florence Belcher, Bernice Patterson and Sharon Todd.

WATERLOO

Waterloo Mayor Marjorie Carroll and Mutual Life of Canada President John H. Panabaker told a crowd of employees and city dignitaries of the company's contribution to the city's development. The occasion was the unveiling in June of the

heritage plaque designating the façade of the building as an historical landmark under the Ontario Heritage Act. Eric Carter of the LACAC described the modern renaissance style of the building, erected in 1912.

WHITBY

Councillor Bob Attersley has questioned the powers of an architectural conservation committee after the owners of a local building were not notified of plans to designate the property "historical". LACAC chairman Bruce Hunt said, because Whitby's Centennial Building is a publicly-owned building, an informal notice could be forgone. It is owned by Durham Region.

ROMANESQUE REBORN AGAIN

At a party given specifically for the occasion on Friday evening, September 28, approximately 500 invited guests of the Ontario College of Art celebrated the official opening of the College's recently-renovated Stewart Building at 149 College Street. A Toronto landmark since its completion in 1894, the 5½ storey brick and sandstone structure is one of the city's finest remaining examples of "Romanesque Revival" architecture. It was designed by E. J. Lennox, better-known as the architect of Casa Loma and the Old Toronto City Hall, as a fashionable men's athletic club. The club, however, was never quite the success its founders (including Chief Justice John Beverly Robinson) had envisioned. By the turn of the century the City had purchased the building and "recycled" it to house the Toronto Technical High School (now Central Technical School). By the beginning of World War I, the building could no longer accommodate that School's expanding curriculum, and it was remodelled again to serve as a military headquarters and infantry school. Following the War, it stood vacant for several years before being extensively renovated to become headquarters for the Toronto Police and Social Welfare departments. It was at that time that it was officially named "The Stewart Building" in honour of then-Mayor William Stewart.

In the early nineteen-fifties, the building became No. 52 Division Station for the Metropolitan Toronto Police Force, and continued to fulfill that function until early 1976 when No. 52 Division moved to new facilities on Dundas Street. In early 1978, following nearly two years of vacancy and neglect, the building and its half-acre site were purchased by the College of Art for \$600,000.

The College subsequently spent approximately \$1.2 million (including an \$80,000 grant from the Ontario Heritage Foundation for exterior masonry cleaning and restoration) to repair, upgrade, and renovate the building for academic use. It now houses OCA's departments of Foundation Studies, Experimental Arts and Photo/Electric Arts, as well as facilities for film, video, sound recording, and animation. The old athletic club's top-floor gymnasium is now painting studios, the technical school's chemistry lab is now a laser holography studio, and the police station's cellblock is now a sculpture workshop. Like the proverbial cat, fine old buildings seem to always land on their feet.

THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SLIDING SASH WINDOW

1. Dutch origin.
2. Imported to England in the time of William and Mary, and superseded casement sash common to early Renaissance buildings there.
3. The double hung Georgian sash, with both sections sliding and counterweighted to move easily — the upper sash, where an odd number of panes occurs in the height, is the smaller.
4. The sash divided and made to fit the glass available in stock sizes.
5. A similar arrangement, with pulleys, sash cords, and cast iron weights, is known in the better and more pretentious houses of North America.
6. In early and simpler houses the upper sash often fixed, only the lower one sliding. — In such instances the upper sash is the longer one when the window is an odd number of panes in height.
7. The parts of a sash window of that kind:
 - (a) The bottom rail (the lower sash), the top rail (to the upper sash).
 - (b) The meeting rail where the sash overlap, either plain or if the sash are separated in the frame by a parting stop, the sash interlock at the meeting rail, often notched to form a check rail.
 - (c) Stiles, the outside vertical pieces of a sash.
 - (d) Muntin or glazing bar, the narrow wooden piece dividing the sash into panes.
8. Occasionally sash may be made to slide horizontally as in a blacksmith shop.

* * * *

Casement sash

1. Hinged sash, generally opening in, less common, but often associated with mills, houses of Scotch background, and more frequent in French Canada.

P.J.S.

THE QUESTION OF COLOUR

Forced recently into a little research in our own small library of old reference books on behalf of Neil MacLennan of Kingston we came upon a quotation we have been seeking for some time — and here with some other juicy bits are a few words from Calvert Vaux. We are sorry not to have found out more for Neil, but the comments about adapting the design to the location obviously were not read by many who have built houses in the last quarter of a century within a fifty mile radius of Toronto. And, even at the expense of going to Coventry, it is a delight to see the remarks about the painting of shutters, or Venetian blinds as they are here referred to, vindicating our tradition for dark green shutters and personal preference for darker colours generally. However, Calvert Vaux does not say that other colours are not permitted — only he does state unequivocally the reason. Some may aver that white is different from red, and therefore why should this not be acceptable on a brick house, to which we can only reply, 'so long as you do not mind a wall-eyed house'.

P.J.S.

VILLAS AND COTTAGES

by Calvert Vaux, Architect — New York:

Harper & Brothers, Publishers,
Franklin Square - 1857 Pages 54-57

"The question of color is a most interesting one in any design for a country house, and seems at present but little understood in America, by far the greater number of houses being simply painted white, with bright green blinds. By this means each residence is distinctly protruded from the surrounding scenery, and instead of grouping and harmonizing with it, asserts a right to carry on a separate business on its own account; this lack of sympathy between the building and its surroundings is very disagreeable to an artistic eye. Even a harsh, vulgar outline may often pass without particular notice in a view of rural scenery, if the mass is quiet and harmonious in color, while a very tolerable composition may injure materially the views near it if it is painted white, the human eye being so constituted that

it will be constantly held in bondage by this striking blot of crude light, and compelled to give it unwilling attention.

When a palace, like that of Versailles, is erected in the midst of formal gardens and terraces on a very large scale, and so arranged that it is the principal feature from every point of view, it is not inappropriate that it should be of white marble. There is nothing more interesting for the eye to rest on than the building, and the light and shade of the architectural decorations, together with the general magnificence of the composition, are set forth to advantage, for pure white, even in large masses, is only disagreeable to the eye when it forces into prominent notice objects of secondary importance.

In country houses the design has to be adapted to the location, and not the location to the design, for it is undesirable, and generally impracticable, to make the natural landscape subservient to the architectural composition. Woods, fields, mountains, and rivers will be more important than the houses that are built among them, and every attempt to force individual buildings into prominent notice is an evidence either of a vulgar desire for notoriety at any sacrifice, or of an ill-educated eye and taste. The colors of rural buildings should be carefully varied. They should be often cheerful and light, sometimes neutral, seldom dark, and never black or white, and there is, fortunately, no end to the combination of tints that may be used in painting a house. The constant recurrence of about the same requirements will, of course, lead to much similarity in plan, particularly in small buildings, but the monotony that this would occasion may be agreeably relieved by a variety in color, both in the interior and exterior. Different patterns of paper will make two rooms of the same proportions no longer look alike, and the same result will be obtained on the exterior by adopting different tints for the walls and the woodwork. Another important point to be considered is that it is entirely insufficient to use only one or two shades of color for each house. Every rural building requires four tints to make it a pleasant object in the way of color, and this variety costs but little more than monotonous repetition, while it adds much to the completeness of the effect. The main walls should be of some agreeable shade of color, the roof-trimmings, verandas, and other woodwork being either of a different color or of a different shade of the same color, so that a contrast, but not a harsh one, may be established. The third color, not widely different from the other wood-work, should be applied to the solid

parts of the Venetian blinds, and the movable slats should be painted of the fourth tint. This last should be by far the darkest used on the premises, for the effect of a glass window or opening in a wall is always dark when seen from a distance, and if this natural fact is not remembered, and the shutters are painted the same color as the rest of the house, a blank, uninteresting effect will be produced, for when the blinds are closed, which is generally the case, the house, except to a person very near it, will appear to be without any windows at all. This error is often fallen into, and requires to be carefully guarded against. It is however, a very simple and easy matter thus in a few words to lay down common-sense rules that may be advantageously followed in painting all country houses, but it is a very different affair to overcome the difficulties of ignorance and prejudice. In some cases the house-painters themselves show a laudable desire to escape from monotonous repetition, but, on the other hand, they are often very troublesome opponents to reform in this matter. This is not to be wondered at, for a mechanic who has been brought up on a chalk-white and spinach-green diet ever since he was old enough to handle a brush, can hardly help having but little taste for delicate variety, because a perpetual contemplation of white lead and verdigris is calculated to have the same effect on the eye that incessant tobacco-chewing has on the palate: in each case the organ is rendered incapable of nice appreciation.

Any person who may wish to have his residence judiciously painted will do well to depend on himself to make the selection of colors. If he will but study the matter simply and fairly, trusting to his real natural instinctive taste, and will regulate his decision by his private feeling for what is agreeable or otherwise, instead of by what he finds next door to him, he will at once cut loose from conventional absurdity, and probably arrive at a result that will be artistic and pleasing.

It is highly satisfactory that, in this matter of color, which is so important to rural art, there is constant opportunity for improvement. The necessity for re-painting every two or three years fortunately compels the question to remain always an open one. Ill-planned roads and ugly houses are troublesome to alter, but improved taste may readily satisfy its craving for harmonious color, which will give, in every instance, a most liberal return for whatever outlay of thought or money may be judiciously bestowed on it."

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

The South and the West

by John H. Lutman

A second book by John Lutman, "The South and the West: An Historical and Architectural Guide" is now available.

Like his first, "The Historic Heart of London" (1977) it combines an instructive text and illustrations. (It also contains a useful selected bibliography of books about the city). The author is now at work on a third book in this series about the North and East.

The City of London LACAC is responsible for these two publications as well as an earlier volume "Reflections of London's Past" (1975) by Frederick H. Armstrong and Daniel J. Brock. The books were produced by London's LACAC, with the backing of the City "to present comprehensive guides to the major planning districts".

All three publications are available at most London bookstores or by mail from the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, P.O. Box 5035 N6A 4L9. (Reflections of London's Past is \$1.50, others are \$3.95 each. Please make cheques or money orders payable to the Treasurer, City of London).

The Canadiana Collection

Dorothy Clark McClure used the theme "Old Ontario" for her exhibition of watercolours, original sepia sketches and lithographic prints at the Gibson House Museum and Gallery last August and September. Postcards are available of her noted sketches of older buildings in Ontario, named The Canadiana Collection.

Where Guelph Began

This booklet leads us on a walking-tour of the original market square area of Guelph. It tells us of John Galt, who on April 23rd, 1827, with a party of surveyors and axemen, walked overland from Shade's Mill (now Cambridge-Galt) along the route of what is now Highway 24 and Waterloo Avenue, to a site beside the falls of the River Speed.

They felled a large maple tree, which event marked the formal founding of the future city of Guelph and symbolized the commencement of the settlement of the vast Huron Tract which had been acquired by the Canada Company.

The text and drawings are by Gordon Couling.

Copies are available from the Guelph Arts Council, Box 1790, Guelph, Ontario, Canada.

Who is Doing What in Historic Preservation The Association for Preservation Technology

This is a directory of members enrolled in 1978. It provides an extensive listing of over 1700 individuals and firms in the United States, Canada and other countries, participating in the historic preservation of buildings and structures, landscapes, industrial sites and the decorative arts. Members price - \$5.00. Non-members - \$10.00 (plus 75 cents for mailing single copies).

The W. E. R. System Manual

The wood epoxy repair system — an engineering manual for the rehabilitation of the structural strength of deteriorated timber, with step by step instructions and clear illustrations.

Members price - \$4.00. Non-members price - \$5.00 (plus 50 cents for mailing single copies). Direct orders to: APT Publications, Box 2487, Station D, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5W6

Old Oakville

This is a chronological record illustrating the architectural styles of some of the town's nineteenth-century buildings. Not only are they shown in David Peacock's architectural portraits and detail drawings, but there are also rare old photographs. Contemporary photographs of interior views show a wealth of architectural detail, particularly in the case of the William Romain House.

The text is by Suzanne Peacock and gives one an insight into the personalities of the original inhabitants. Farm cottages, stately mansions, public houses and churches are shown. A simple brown hard cover binding is used, with the only printing, its label in gold on the cover. A most useful, informative, and attractive book.

From Front Street to Queen's Park

Eric Arthur

This is the story of Ontario's Parliament Buildings. The author, one of the foremost architects and architectural critics of our time, has given us 200 illustrations and related architectural information, detailing the craftsmanship and works of art that have characterized the Parliament Buildings over almost two centuries of political heritage.

From 1792, with the arrival of Governor Simcoe and his wife, through 1813 when the legislature was destroyed by fire, to the final opening in 1893, the story unfolds.

HERITAGE CANADA NEWS RELEASE

Community Service Awards

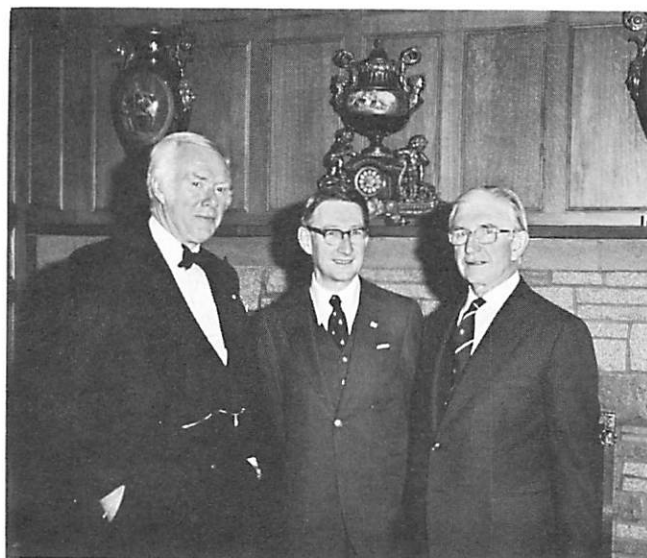
Peter John Stokes

Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario

Mr. Stokes has concentrated his professional skills as an architect for over twenty years on the preservation of all aspects of Canada's built environment. One of the founding members of the Association for Preservation Technology, he has lectured and written extensively on the values of preserving our early structures and has established the highest standards of preservation in his work, in his training of apprentice architects and in lectures to many classes of university students.

Peter John Stokes has always been a strong member and is Past President of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario. To their publication the "Acorn", he has devoted hours of time and great expertise as former Editor as well as generous advice and assistance to historic societies and preservation groups all across Canada. He has acted as a consultant to the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and his professionalism is always visible. A ready spokesman for the cause whenever one is needed, his high ideals and uncompromising dedication have made his contribution to the preservation and restoration of Ontario's Heritage exceptional.

"In Ontario, to Peter John Stokes, who is a founding member of the Association for Preservation Technology, the President of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, the outspoken editor of Acorn, and, for more than 20 years, one of Canada's most important preservation architects".



Pierre Berton, Peter John Stokes, and the Honourable Henry P. Bell-Irving, Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia, at an award ceremony Thursday, October 18th at Government House in Victoria, B.C.



We are receiving requests by mail for copies of ACORN, and also requests to be put on our subscription list. These letters have been answered stating that ACORN is not for sale and suggesting that the writers join the nearest ACO branch and receive three copies a year.



We are always glad to receive pictures which accompany articles. If you wish these pictures returned, please send a stamped, addressed envelope. Ed.

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